5

10

## Image Overlay Apparatus and Method for Operating the Same

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Broadly speaking, an image overlay apparatus and corresponding method of operation are provided. More specifically, the image overlay apparatus and corresponding method of operation combine multiple sets of display data in an efficient manner while eliminating storage of additional display data in a display memory. Key data is written to the display memory to define a portion of the viewable area of the display component that will be used for rendering an incoming set of display data. The key data is modified using appropriate portions of the incoming set of display data. Modification of the key data using the incoming set of display data can be performed during residence of the key data in the display memory or during transmission of the key data to a display component.